

6

[REDACTED]

Chief, Interrogation Research Division

S.F. 079367

100 925017

FACTORY TO CONCENTRATION

1. Subject of this report is a thirty-five-year-old married male, an alien of Circassian origin, who has been covertly utilized by the Agency since 1942.

2. Subject was previously interviewed on: 23 February 1957; 25 February 1956; 13 December 1956; 24 April 1957; 17 October 1957 (two different examiners); and 27 April 1958. After the April 1958 interview (which was specific in scope and did not touch on previous dealings with Subject's business), [redacted] a representative of [redacted] (which was the first of several such representatives who appeared in the [redacted] [redacted] and consistently, the [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] attempted to resolve the discrepancies which [redacted] to exist in Subject's autobiography.

3. The result of the 1974 declassification contained in above Attachment "A." A review of this 1974 declassification by the Director's staff identified certain inconsistencies. Further, some of the information appears to be at variance with known Soviet reality. This review was a matter of record by L-2 through a memorandum to the Director (Attachment "B").

4. Subject was currently debriefed and interviewed at a covert location in Washington, D.C. on 17 and 20 November 1968 at the request of [redacted], SI/SAC. The debriefing took place in a restaurant, subject by [redacted], CI/CN, stipulating that prior to returning Subject's report, Subject would have to clarify and explain satisfactorily all circumstances of service in his autobiography. The entire interview was conducted in the Russian language.

PUBLIC V

1. The purpose of the current Guernsey is to receive the dis-
crepancies still apparent in subject's personal history. Although sub-
ject had previously discussed many interrelations, both with and without
the aid of the polygraph, it was still evident, from a review of the file,

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2D
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

SECRET

S.F. 871367
14 December 1959

2. At the start of the first day's debriefing, subject stated that one of its (the debriefing's) purposes was to be mentioned that a repetition of his previous attempts at deception would not be beneficial to him or to his "friend". Subject said that he only agreed to the interview with the debriefing section and assured the examiner that "not one word of truth" would come from his lips during the current interview.

11. In answer to the question of how he was able, in the past, to be so consistent in giving a "decent" autobiog. story, subject stated that he always had an "outline form" where the main points of his false auto-biography were recorded. Consequently, whenever he was called upon to submit facts about his personal history, he would always refer to this "outline form" and come up with a consistent (if not true) autobiog. story. Subject was asked whether he had in his possession, this "outline form." He replied in the negative.

- 2 -

SECRET

SECRET

S.F. #79367
14 December 1959

6. At the conclusion of the first day's debriefing, after Subject was confronted with numerous facts which reflected that his current autobiographical version was in conflict with information previously given by him, he begged that he be given some time to think and consolidate his thoughts and facts about his past--in fact, he offered to spend the night of 19 November writing his autobiography. The examiner agreed and debriefing was terminated for that day.

7. When Subject came in on 20 November, he referred to some rough notes which he had scribbled the night before (he had not written out a complete autobiography as he had promised) and repeated the same basic autobiographical version, specifically concerning the areas in which he was caught lying the day before. The examiner was convinced beyond all doubt that Subject had again reverted to the use of his "outline form" to refresh his memory. Subject, however, denied that he consulted or made reference to any "form" to refresh his memory.

1. SUMMARY OF THE DEBRIEFING

The following additional information, developed during Subject's current debriefing, is set down in synopsis form. An elaboration and the details relating to each of the points noted is contained in the "Details of the Report" section.

- a. Subject admitted that he was recruited by German Intelligence in 1942 to work as their informer against the Circassians (his own people).
- b. Subject said he was instructed by a representative of German Intelligence, in 1942, to "volunteer" for service with the 835th Circassian Battalion so that he could perform his "informant" duties more efficiently.
- c. Subject admitted to current correspondence with his relatives and friends, and with his wife's relatives in U.S.S.R. (since late 1957).
- d. Subject stated that he was never in Solovki as he previously claimed, but was somewhere in the Vilnius District while serving his one-year prison sentence (from 1940 to 1941).
- e. Subject admitted that he falsified the extent of his education.

SECRET

SECRET

S.F. #79367
14 December 1959

- f. Subject admitted that he was a semi-deserter from the German Army for eleven months after his release from the hospital in the summer of 1943.
- g. Minor unresolved discrepancies noted in the "Details of the Report" section.
- h. Continued unresolved discrepancies regarding his activities while under German jurisdiction (1943-1945).

CONCLUSION

1. On the basis of current debriefing and polygraph testing, as well as from observation of Subject's behavior during his debriefing, it is the examiner's opinion that Subject is an incorrigible fabricator who is still attempting deception about his past.

2. Subject's explanation for initially attempting to falsify and fabricate part of his autobiography to the Americans may have been originally understandable in light of the existing circumstances, as Subject explained them. It was his desire to increase his (Subject's) personal stature and importance in the eyes of those (Germans and Americans) interested in utilizing him. Subject also wished to maintain continuity with his previously given false autobiographical version (to the Americans in Japan) so that he could immigrate to the United States (reference: SA/DOB debriefing, dated October 1950, page 15, paragraph 1-5, Attach. "A"). However, the above points cannot be accepted, at this time, as reasons for his continued attempts at deception to the American authorities. At present, there is no one left to impress with Subject's non-existent stature and capability; neither is there any necessity to maintain continuity of a fabricated autobiographical version to facilitate his entrance into the United States. As Subject himself informed this examiner, he has realized, and is convinced, that American Intelligence is interested more in Subject's capabilities than in what Subject says he can do. Yet, even though Subject is aware of this existing situation--in fact, he has realized it since the August 1957 debriefing--and knows that further fabrication will not help his case, he persists in fabricating, and uttering deception about his past during every session brought up to him. He lied during his last two debriefing sessions, the SA/DOB debriefing in October 1950, and the first day (19 November 1959) of the current debriefing.

3. If Subject does not have the capacity or the inclination to relate only the unvarnished truth about himself and his past, and if he

SECRET

177067
14 December 1959

SECRET

continues to falsify and fabricate about his past, which possibly a re-appraisal of Subject should be considered prior to utilizing him in the future.

4. The examiner can only draw one final conclusion about Subject and his unceasing, deceitful attempts during interrogation. The reason why Subject is continuing deception about his background must be so important and pertinent to Subject's welfare that he cannot afford to tell the complete truth about his past without seriously jeopardizing his future.

5. No further polygraph testing of Subject is recommended. The current polygraph testing was attempted only because Subject gave additional data which heretofore he had not divulged. However, after polygraph testing, it is still evident that Subject is practicing deception.

DETAILS OF THE DEBRIEF

1. Information obtained during the debriefing of Subject is set forth in the pages oner as received from Subject with particular reference to the discrepancies as they were uncovered. To further underline the extent of Subject's fabrications, these false versions are recited in chronological order, in a side-by-side comparative form--i.e., the current version, which is supposed to be the unvarnished truth, as compared to the former versions (specifically the SI/DOB, October 1958 version), as well as other earlier statements made by Subject to his debriefers.

DEBRIEFING ON 19 OCTOBER 1959

Subject's Current Version

Name - Tschoria
Subject has a German passport which lists his name as Ardel Maria BUCHHEITZ (DOB-11-11), K/A Tschoria

Date of Birth - 24 August 1924

Subject's Previous Versions

Same information on all other debriefings.

SI/DOB and August 1958 Debriefing
Date - 24 August 1958

All debriefings prior to August 1958
Date - 1 January 1958

SECRET

SECRET

U.S. 1000
14 December 1959

Place of Birth - Takhtaankai Aul
(village) Takhtaankai Rayon,
Krasnodarskiy, Kray.

Same information in all
views debriefings.

Education - Attended Takhtaankai
Primary School from 1930 or 1931,
completing five classes in six
years by 1936 or 1937.

SI/DOJ Debriefing - Same
School from 1930-31 and
the 8th class in 1939.

August 1957 Debriefing - Finished
two 9th classes.

All debriefings prior to
1957 - no school from childhood until
Military Academy.

Attended School of Disinfectors
six-month course in 1937 or 1938
in Armavir.

No mention of this schooling at
any previous debriefings.

Subject admitted he lied to all previous debriefers about the extent
of his schooling. He could not give a logical explanation for this lie.

Change of Age - Arranged through a
friend in 1939 for the record of his
date of birth to be changed to 1921.
Purpose of this change of date of
birth record was so that Subject
could be drafted into the Army three
years sooner.

SI/DOJ Debriefing - Date of
birth record changed in 1939.

August 1957 Debriefing - Date
of birth record changed in
1937 or 1938.

When asked why no question of this age change was raised later, when
Subject was called by the Army Draft Board, he could give no logical ex-
planation.

Application for Komsomol Membership
Application for membership
three or four times prior to leaving
class in 1936 or 1937. Rejected each
time because of bad conduct in school
and because one of his uncles left
USSR and lived in Turkey.

SI/DOJ Debriefing - No mention
of this fact.

August 1957 Debriefing - Applied
and was rejected more than once
because of family background--
because his father and brother
were politically unreliable.

SECRET

SECRET

S.F. 1230
14 December 1952

Application for Kammoel Membership
(Continued)

October 1957 debriefing -
Subject's explanation of applica-
tions to the Kammoel between
1936 and 1937.

When questioned as to his age at the time of a application for membership to the Kammoel, Subject said he was approximately 12 or 13 years old. He had not made any efforts as yet to change the record of his date of birth.

Examiner's Notes: The minimum age of Kammoel candidates is 14 years. The Subject was confronted with this fact--trying to join the Kammoel at an age when he wouldn't even be considered for membership--Subject was at a loss for words and could give no logical explanation for this discrepancy. Subject's explanation that he was accepted by the local Kammoel unit and rejected by the regional (rayon) unit, reflects that the Regional Kammoel Unit must have had Subject's complete autobiography (true date of birth included) in order to be able to come to a decision regarding Subject's case.

Employment: - In 1937 or 1938, when he completed his studies, Subject began working as a clerk assistant to the bookkeeper of the Kolkhos in Tashkent. He worked for six months and then went to Arzavir to attend the Disinfectors' School for six months.

Subject's and August 1957 debriefings: - In 1937, he was working as a bookkeeper for one of the Tashkent Kolkhoses until he was drafted in October 1940.

All debriefings prior to August 1957: - Military counseling and service.

Examiner's Notes: If Subject finished school in May 1936, worked in the Kolkhos for approximately six months (November 1936), and received additional schooling (six months in Arzavir, June 1937), then the question arises as to what he did from June 1937, or even from the end of 1937, until he was drafted into the Army in autumn (September or October) of 1940. A period of approximately three years (1938-1940) remains unaccounted for. If Subject completed school in May 1937, and we use the above mentioned activities to fill the gaps of his life (dividing each by one year), a period of two years (1939-40) still remains unaccounted for.

When the above conflicting facts were mentioned to Subject, he could not give a satisfactory explanation other than to agree that he must be omitting something about his past which he cannot recall.

SECRET

SECRET

S.F. #72367
14 December 1959

Military Service - Subject initially said he was called for the draft by Rayvonenkomat in the autumn of 1937. However, when it was pointed out to him that in 1937, he did not yet attain draft age, and therefore, could not have been called (even if the record of POK was altered), Subject reconsidered and changed the date of his draft call to autumn of 1940. He also stated that he was called by and reported to Takitanskai Rayvonenkomat, Second Section (chiefly), and passed through a medical commission, etc. He was told to report to RVK in one or two months, and was called to report one and a half months after the initial call. No documents of any type were demanded of Subject to verify his identity.

Subject was questioned as to why he was not asked for identity documents by the RVK, especially since he resided in Takitanskai all his life. He was born there, therefore, had a birth certificate; he went to school there, therefore, records of his age were in existence in the school records; he worked there, therefore, indications of his identity and age existed; he submitted applications for Komsomol membership, therefore, evidence of his true age was available both at the Takitanskai Komsomol unit level and the Regional Komsomol level. Subject was then asked why there were no questions regarding his true age--no logical explanation could be obtained from Subject.

Arrests - Subject was arrested on a charge of hooliganism a few days before reporting for military duty in October 1940. He was sentenced by the People's Court to one year in placement under Criminal Code Statute 7b, part 1 or 2. He was first sent to the Kraundar Jail where he spent seven days and from there was transferred to the labor colony in Kraundar (for short-termers), where he stayed for two months. He was then transferred to Vil'nius (Lithuania), and with other prisoners, helped to build an airfield.

1947 Debriefing - Included a draft call in autumn 1940 and was about to be drafted. Subject did not appear before a screening or medical commission, but was arrested.

August 1947 Debriefing - In October 1940, Subject was called for military duty by RVK in Takitanskai. He went through two days medical examining and screening--acceptance, and was told to report the next day for duty.

All debriefings prior to August 1957 - Subject indicated his military career in all his pre-1957 debriefings.

1947 RVK Debriefing - Subject was arrested for hooliganism in the fall of 1940 under Criminal Code 7b, part 1. He served one or two weeks of his term in the transit jail and then transferred to Solovki to build a military airfield. Subject remained there until the beginning of the war.

August 1957 Debriefing - Differs from the current version primarily

SECRET

SECRET

S.I. #72357
14 Dec 1959

Arrests (Cont'd)

Subject mentioned that while he was in the Prisoner Labor Colony, his brother, Bob (aka-129), was also serving a two or three year term, having been sentenced under the 109th statute of the Criminal Code. Bob was released in 1941. He had been previously imprisoned in 1935 or 1936, and was expelled from the Communist Party at that time.

Time Spent in the Vil'nia Prisoner Labor Colony and Prisoner Labor Colony - Subject stated that he spent six months in the Vil'nia Prisoner Labor Colony in Lithuania, [redacted]. Subject recently saw [redacted] (mentioned in [redacted] dated 27 August 1957 as [redacted]), and during a discussion of their past, the latter told Subject that the Labor Colony was located 30 or 40 kilometers inside the Vil'nia Oblast, and not in Polesk as Subject formerly indicated.

At the outbreak of the war on 22 June 1941, Subject and other short-termers were allowed to go from Vil'nia Oblast Labor Colony to a camp four or five kilometers outside of Minsk. Subject stated that it took an approximately 9 or 10 days to make the trip. He added that he had trouble with his feet (his soles were either blistered or full of sores), and that he barely completed the trip. Upon arrival to the Minsk area, Subject discovered that his original certificate of premature release from prison was seized by someone else (Subject found out later that it was [redacted]). However, Subject obtained a duplicate certificate and made his way back home via train. He arrived in Tashkent in August 1941.

In that subject stated that he was sent to a region near [redacted], and not Vil'nia.

1941-1942 (aka-129) - According to [redacted], [redacted] Subject stated that he (aka-129) was imprisoned under the 11th statute of the Criminal Code, that he was expelled from the Communist Party at the same time, was sentenced to two years of hard labor.

In all previous debriefings, Subject said that he spent time in the Polesk Labor Colony and not in Vil'nia Oblast.

In all previous debriefings, substantially the same information was given in regard to [redacted] use of Subject's identity in order to get his [redacted] certificate of premature release from prison.

SECRET

SECRET

S.S. #79357

14 December 1959

Time Spent in the Vil'nius Prison Labor
Camp and Return to the Home (Vil'nia)

A few days later, Subject met [redacted] and found out that it was [redacted] who claimed Subject's certificate of release. [redacted], on the basis of Subject's certificate of release, had already received a three or five year passport in Krasnodar under Subject's identity.

EN/NO Debriefing - Subject met [redacted] two weeks after Subject's return home. [redacted] promised Subject that he ([redacted]) would go to Krasnodar and get a passport there, using Subject's name. [redacted] he already had a release certificate, also under Subject's name.

August 1957 Debriefing - After the German occupied Lithuania, [redacted] returned Subject's papers.

Examiner's Note

1. Subject was asked to estimate the daily mileage covered by him during the trip from Vil'nia (Oblast') to the Smolensk suburb. He estimated a minimum average of five miles a day, and a maximum of 10 miles a day. Subject was then questioned as to the possibility (physically) of traveling by foot (which he claimed to have done), from the Vil'nia (Oblast') region to the Smolensk suburb, a distance of roughly 30 miles in 9 or 10 days. This would require a minimum average of 30 miles daily, which is quite an undertaking, considering that Subject was on Soviet prison rations for the past nine months, and had no ration except what he picked up during the forced march to Smolensk. Subject could not logically explain how he managed the trip, in this span of time, except to insist that he did.

2. Subject was also asked how [redacted] was able to assume Subject's identity and receive Subject's certificate of passport release since each prisoner's file also contained his photograph.

3. Subject could give no logical explanation, and claims that it just happened. Subject could not explain why he allowed another individual ([redacted]) to use his identity, especially since the other resided in the same general area as Subject (10 kilometers away, Krasnodar). Subject denied that he gave [redacted] permission to use his (Subject's) name when the former was obtaining a passport, as indicated in the EN/NO Debriefing.

4. Subject was asked to give details of his trip back home from Smolensk--the time it took, etc. He could contribute absolutely nothing regarding this period.

SECRET

December 1959

CONFIDENTIAL - This aspect of the subject's life was not covered during this debriefing.

October 1947, United States - (Continued)
 1. Subject stated that he had been arrested in 1947, but did not have an identity card. He was used for a one-year period. However, no mention is made of when, or on the basis of which qualifying documents this identity card was initially issued to subject.

1. It is this informant's understanding that when a Soviet citizen is released, after serving his prison term he receives only a short-term (one-year) passport (if he lives in an area where there is necessity for possessing such a document) or identity card. Subject corroborated this fact by stating that upon his release, he could obtain only a short-term (one-year type) identity document, and that this short-term document was issued on the basis of his certificate of premature release from prison.

- 11 -

SECRET

SECRET

S.S. #77257
14 December 1959

First Marriage - Subject stated that his first wife's name was Elizabeth (Liz) (Liz B), who he married in 1942 for a period of three months. Subject stated that she died some time in 1942, however, he does not know any details about her death.

Service in the Soviet Military Labor Battalion - In October or November 1941, Subject was drafted into a labor battalion. From that time until July 1942, at which time Subject deserted, he remained with the labor battalion, including a Soviet defense mobilization in the Caucasus.

Service with the German (Circassian) Field (Germans) Battalion - Subject stated that he was drafted into a German labor battalion to serve the German forces in the Caucasus when they occupied Tbilisi in August 1942.

Two days after the arrival of the German Occupation Troops, Subject was elected Deputy to the Chief of the Circassian Militia of the mountainous region. Subject was in charge of 30 men in this militia group. Subject stated that he was elected to this position only on the basis of his family background, and no other reason. He explained that 80 percent of the mountainous village was inhabited by his relatives. At the same time, Subject's brother was elected as Mayor of Tbilisi, also because of the same reason that Subject was elected to his respective position, i.e., strong family influence in the village. Subject was asked whether he gave the Germans any false information about his background at this time (his date of birth, etc.); and he replied in the negative.

May 1942 - Subject stated that he was married to his first wife six months prior to going over to the Germans. (Two individuals having the same name, called Elizabeth, were mentioned in this report.)

ACB Referring - There is no mention of Subject's first wife.

SI/US Referring - Some basic information is contained in this report that Subject stated that he deserted the labor battalion in the spring of 1942.

SI/US Referring - Some basic information is contained in this report.

SI/US Referring - Reflects that in a recommendation of a group of elders, Subject was elected as the head of the local militia. Subject stated, in this same debriefing, that he told the Germans that he was born in 1913, in order to appear older and thereby, obtain the position of Chief of Militia.

SECRET

SECRET

S.S. #1367
11 December 1959

Service with the German Civilian Field
Gendarmerie (1942) - (Cont.)

Subject explained that this would have been a futile attempt on his part since everyone in the village knew about his true background facts. If Subject, at this time, falsified information about his background, the Germans would have been able to discover this without difficulty. Subject added that possibly he did enter to the German authorities, a military identity card (Soviet) which may have had his birth date listed as 1921.

Service with the German Army - Subject
remained with the German Militia Group from August 1942 until October 1942. He stated that he resigned from the militia and volunteered for duty with the 83rd North Caucasian Battalion (which was made up of Caucasian Prisoners of War). Subject stated, at this time, that the reason for his resignation from the militia was because the Germans wanted Subject to inform on the local population, which he refused to do.

Subject said that he received the rank of a platoon commander in the 83rd Battalion solely on the basis of the fact that he was Deputy to the Chief of the Militia. Subject said that the version he gave was incorrect.

Subject's Hospitalization Due to
Wound - Subject was wounded in February 1943 and sent to a hospital for four or five months to recuperate from a shoulder wound. He left this hospital in July 1943.

August 1947 Rejoining - Subject said his rejoining with the militia from August 1942 until January 1943. Subject volunteered for service with the 83rd Battalion in the middle of January 1943.

1947 Rejoining - Subject said this rejoining until January 1943, when he voluntarily joined the German Army.

1947 Rejoining - Subject said that he was a German Battalion company officer that he finished the Military Academy in Gailzhorn, and, as a result, received the rank of a platoon commander.

1947 Rejoining - Subject was wounded in February 1943 and sent to a German Field Hospital in Melitopol where he remained until October or November 1943 to recuperate from a shoulder wound.

SECRET

SECRET

14 December 1959

Subject's participation in the evacuation of Circassian refugees from Odessa to the headwaters of the 17th Caucasian Division for reassignment. In September or October 1943, Subject was sent to join the Hermann Battalion near Nikolayev; however, Subject never reached Nikolayev, but stopped in Odessa instead.

Subject's participation - Subject was released from the hospital and sent to join the Hermann Battalion which was being organized near Nikolayev. Subject remained in Odessa until January 1944 when he was assigned to join the Hermann Battalion, which was made up of Caucasians and which occupied positions near Nikolayev. However, Subject never reached Nikolayev, but stopped in Odessa.

Subject's Participation in the Evacuation of Circassian Refugees from Odessa to Ploesti, Rumania.

1. The only similarity between the SA/PCB Debriefing version and the current version that Subject gives about this episode is the fact that he was in charge of and travelled with a group of Circassian refugees from Odessa to Ploesti, Rumania.

2. The description of the events and circumstances leading up to and including Subject's accomplishment of this feat are inconsistent, vague, full of discrepancies (even his story is challenged), and in this examination, a deliberate fabrication. Subject was thoroughly mixed up when he related or tried to explain the details concerning the period of his life. He was caught in deliberate lies about the sequence of events leading up to his being ordered to take charge of the refugees evacuation; he fabricated about the whereabouts of his brother, Jos, at that time; and, about his (Subject's) association with the 630th Battalion, which was stationed in Le Havre, France.

3. In short, this examiner, after reading all the available details Subject originally gave about this episode of his life, SA/PCB Debriefing included, as well as the two different versions he gave this examiner during the 21 and 23 November interviews, concludes, can arrive only at one conclusion. The fabricated information related by Subject regarding this phase is not worth recording in this report.

4. Subject summed up his activity (from the time he left the hospital until May 1945) very briefly, on the second day of our current interview. He stated that after release from the hospital, he (Subject) was a second-hand man from the German Army for 11 months--existing on second-hand and second-official documents.

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET
14 December 1959

5. Subject's 17 November 1959 version of his activities, from time of his release from the hospital until May 1945, differed from the version he gave on 20 November 1959 after he had a chance (the night before, to recall out an outline, to which he made reference.

DEFERRING ON 20 NOVEMBER 1959

1. As previously indicated, Subject, on 20 November 1959, gave a revised version of the story he gave the day before about the period July 1943 to May 1945. Since the examiner felt that it was futile to continue to attempt to get the true version of the above phase of Subject's life, this attempt was discontinued.

2. A review of Subject's file reflects that the following document, Attachment 118-A-157—was issued to Subject by the German authorities in 1942. Following is a reproduction of the document translated into English from German:

The Mayor of the area

date 30.12.1942

TACHTAMUKAI

The Oberleutnant and Chief of the Circassian Field Police Tschirkin

_____ born on 1.1.1918 in Tachtamukai, North Caucasus is authorized to search all villages in my area.

Authority: Special order from German Field Command No. 514 of 26.12.1942

D/10. 704/12.

This permit is valid together with soldier book No. 110763 issued by the commanding officer of the SS and SD Bureau in Krasnodar on 15.10.42.

SLAL

The Mayor (signature) /Chatit/
Secretary (signature) /Schand Jun/

- 15 - SECRET

SECRET

S.F. 7727
14 December 1959

This document reflects that:

- A) it was issued on 30 December 1942;
- B) it was issued on a basis of a special order from German field commanding No. 540 on 26 December 1942;
- C) it authorizes Subject as a representative of the Circassian field police, to search all villages in his area;
- D) Subject was, on date of issue of this document, a member of the militia (field police);
- E) this document is valid, together with a Soldier's Book No. 115753, issued by the Commanding Officer of the 15 and 16 Bureau in Krasnodar on October 15, 1942; and
- F) Subject was born on 1 January 1910.

Subject was asked to explain in detail everything about the above-mentioned document, the original of which was shown to him without allowing him the opportunity to closely examine the document.

3. Subject stated that this document was issued to him by the German authorities while he (Subject) was still the Deputy Chief of the Circassian Militia in Mauthausen. It was issued prior to October 1942, and Subject was absolutely positive of this, before he joined the 53rd Circassian Battalion. Subject said the document was primarily for the purpose of authorizing him to search all villages in his area. Subject emphasized that at the time he received this document, he was still a member of this militia, and had not yet volunteered for service with the 53rd Battalion.

4. When Subject was confronted with the fact that the date of issue of this document was December 1942, a proximately two and one half months after he joined the 53rd Battalion, he could not understand how this was possible, stating that he probably made a mistake about his date of enlistment in the militia. Subject was next confronted with the fact that this document reflected that he received his Soldier's Book in Krasnodar on 15 October 1942. Subject immediately stated that he received a temporary Soldier's Book two weeks prior to the time that he actually joined the 53rd Battalion. Subject also indicated that 30 December 1942 (date of issue of this document) was, in all probability, a chronological error. Subject was then informed that the authority for this document was based on the German Field Command No. 540, dated 26 December 1942, and that it

SECRET

16 December 1978

was a very remote possibility that typographical mistakes were made throughout the whole document. Subject was asked if he ever indicated to the German authorities if he was born in 1918. He answered in the negative.

5. The examiner proceeded to confront Subject with the fact that the story he gave about his service with the Circassian Field Police did not reflect the true facts, at least not on the basis of the above document. Subject, after various attempts at explaining these discrepancies, stated in desperation, that he could not logically explain why this official document did not coincide with his version, as he gave it previously. When it was pointed out to Subject that the examiner did not accept his explanation and that the examiner had a responsibility in extending such discretion to his mannerisms, Subject's only answer was, "Tell them (your superiors) that I'm lying, and that I can't logically explain these discrepancies."

6. After further interrogation, Subject finally admitted that he lied to the examiner, as well as to his previous debriefers, about his association with German Intelligence. In fact, prior to giving the true story of his association with German Intelligence, Subject requested that the examiner not take notes.

7. Subject gave the following story about his association with German Intelligence in 1942. After the Germans occupied Talditamakai in 1942, and after Subject was elected to his position with the militia, he was approached and recruited by a German Intelligence officer, Hans (LNU), who was with the SS or SD. Approximately the same time, the Circassian Battalion was being formed by the Germans. Since the bulk of the personnel of this battalion was made up of Circassian Prisoners of War, the Germans were interested in knowing the battalion morale problem, as well as the general feeling the Circassians had towards the German authorities. The Germans did not trust the Circassians who were in the 83rd Battalion and recruited Subject to act as informant on his own people (Circassians). Subject agreed, and began observing the actions and the conduct of his fellow Circassians in Talditamakai area and the 83rd Battalion.

8. Subject stated that he often visited the Mayor's (CHATIT) office in Talditamakai, and while there, went to the back office to report to the German Intelligence officer, Hans, regarding anything of importance. Subject added that Hans instructed him to join the 83rd Battalion so that he could perform his informant functions about the battalion personnel, with more efficiency and less suspicion. Subject stated that he volunteered for the 83rd Battalion on orders given to him by Hans to do so.

9. After Subject joined the 83rd Battalion, he still reported to Hans quite often. Subject's frequent visits to Hans, as well as his inquisitiveness about different personalities in his village, caused suspicion among

SECRET

SECRET

100000
14 December 1949

the residents of Takhinaki, and there were rumors that he (Subject) was an informant for the Germans. In order to avert these suspicions and eliminate rumors, the German intelligence officer (mentioned above) issued to Subject, with this document, a permit to have an excuse to visit Takhinaki and to look around without casting any suspicions on himself. Although the document was indicated by the German intelligence officer, it was issued by the Circassian Mayor and Secretary, so that to all intents and purposes the authority for this permit or document was of Circassian origin. Subject stated that this document was of help to him, and that therefore no further rumors or allegations that he was working as an informant for the Germans. Actually Subject was an enemy of the German intelligence, as their informant, from the initial German occupation until Subject was wounded and went to the hospital in February 1943.

10. Subject's only other contact with representatives of German intelligence was in 1944, when he was in Berlin. At that time, a German intelligence officer (S or 10) indicated to Subject that he knew of Subject's former S or S9 contacts.

11. Subject was asked if he had ever signed any secrecy agreements for German intelligence; if he had ever made any written reports to German intelligence; if he had ever made any oral reports to the German intelligence; and if, on the basis of his reporting, any Circassian or Soviet was punished. Subject answered in the negative to each of these questions. Subject did, however, say that on one occasion he could not recall specifically when, he was ordered to take charge of an execution of a Soviet partisan. He said that he himself did not fire, but was in charge of the execution detail.

12. Subject further mentioned an incident which occurred while he was an informer for the German intelligence in 1942. After the 835th Battalion's retreat from Kaluginstaya, some of the Circassian soldiers of the battalion planned to take over the 100th (mentioned in Iid 25017, dated 27 August 1942) platoon, capture its German weapons and surrender to the advancing Soviet forces. While this conspiracy was being planned, in a hut, Takhinaki, a group of 100 men, unexpectedly entered the hut. The rebels thought their conspiracy was discovered and that the hut was surrounded, therefore, surrendered to them, their plan to capture the German officer to give to the Soviets. The 100th led the leader of the conspiracy, carried him out, and told the rebellious Circassians that if they did as they had planned, the German would have undoubtedly executed, as a retaliatory measure, all Circassians in the nearby village. Subject mentioned nothing of this incident to the German authorities. Subject said he knew nothing of this planned conspiracy until Hano, the German intelligence officer, went into his office soon

SECRET

SECRET

20000
20 December 1959

after the incident, called him a S.O.B., and ordered Subject to find them. Shortly after this, the whole 33rd Battalion was called into formation, the conspirators were lined up before the battalion, accused of their planned revolt, sentenced to death immediately, and executed by a firing squad before the 33rd Battalion, as a lesson for any future conspirators. Subject again underlined that he had no part in reverting this incident to the German Intelligence man, Hans.

Correspondence with Individuals in U.S.S.R. - Subject admitted to actively corresponding with [redacted] (13-118), his father-in-law, who resides in [redacted], [redacted], U.S.S.R. Subject's wife, [redacted], and Subject found out, in late 1957, through Circassian friends in Jordan, that [redacted] was alive in the Soviet Union, and they (Subject and his wife) immediately (in 1957) sent a letter to him. All correspondence with the father-in-law is carried on in the name of [redacted] (13-118), not [redacted] is Ibrahim's nickname, given to him by his mother.

The average number of letters going to and from the Soviet Union amounts to one or two letters monthly. There have been some packages, containing clothing, bed spreads, and rugs, as well as streptococin and anti-T.B. pills, the latter for the mother-in-law, [redacted] (13-118). Subject stated that the original letter from the father-in-law contained nothing except the fact that the latter was thankful to be in USSR and was alive only because of the intervention of the Soviet authorities.

Subject said that he censors all outgoing mail which his wife writes to make sure it contains nothing of a political nature. Subject also writes to his brother's (son) wife, [redacted] (13-118), and her two

SS/POB Petitioning - (13-118) Subject stated: "I have no other close relatives in the Caucasus. After my evacuation by the Germans, I neither received nor wrote to [redacted] to my village."

May 1958 Fabricating - Subject made no statement regarding his correspondence with his father-in-law, although he commenced corresponding with him in late 1957.

SECRET

SECRET

S.F. 79367
14 December 1959

Correspondence with Individuals in USSR
(Cont'd)

sona, [REDACTED] (10-110) and [REDACTED] (12-110). They reside in the [REDACTED]. He first wrote to son's wife in early 1958 sending a total of two letters and receiving two in return from her.

On one occasion, Subject inserted a letter for [REDACTED] (12-110) in Takhitaukai. [REDACTED] father and Subject's father were cousins. [REDACTED] wrote back to Subject. [REDACTED] was outside of the Soviet Union until 1949, at which time he voluntarily repatriated to the Soviet Union.

Subject also corresponds with [REDACTED] (12-110) of Takhitaukai. Subject said [REDACTED] mother is a sister of Subject's father. Subject exchanged four or five letters with [REDACTED], receiving the last letter five months ago, and answering it two months ago.

A check of LHM records reflects that [REDACTED] is Subject's sister's (Sura's) married name.

SF/1953 Debriefing - Reflects Sura [REDACTED] is Subject's sister.

Subject only indicated that this person was a friend and made no mention of his sister. Subject also received and wrote two letters to [REDACTED] (12-110) of Takhitaukai. The latter asked Subject about the whereabouts of his wife's brother in the United States. Subject sent the last letter to this man four days ago.

Subject added that he also had correspondence with [REDACTED] (12-110), a woman in Takhitaukai who requested information regarding her relatives in the United States.

SECRET

13. Subject stated that he has used his true name and address in all correspondence with his relatives and friends in the U.S. When asked why he had not told his Case Officer, or had not mentioned anything about his correspondence during his April 1951 and 1957 debriefings, Subject could not give a logical answer, stating only that he did not want to specifically about this.

14. Subject's memory was refreshed, and he was told of the contents of the May/1951 and April 1953 debriefings wherein he specifically denies correspondence with anyone in the Soviet Union. Subject equinced, and then stated that he was sure that the U.S. postal authorities censored all mail going to and coming from the USSR and; therefore, deduced that the Agency undoubtedly knew of his correspondence, even if they did not mention this fact to the American intelligence authorities. Subject was informed that, to the examiner's knowledge, no such correspondence censorship by U.S. postal authorities exists. It was obvious to the examiner that Subject was lying, and that he did not inform the American intelligence authorities of his correspondence with relatives in the USSR because of deliberate intent to deceive.

SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

The following are the pertinent questions which were asked of Subject and his answers:

Tests I and II

- 40. Are you lying about your life story for the period from birth to 1942? No.
- 42. Are you lying about your life story for the period 1942 to 1945? No.
- 43. Are you lying about your life story for the period 1945 to 1955? No.
- 44. Are you lying about your life story for the period 1955 to present? No.

Tests III and IV

- 3. Are you intentionally withholding from me about any part of your autobiography? No.
- 5. Are you intentionally withholding anything about your past which occurred prior to 1942? No.

SECRET

U.F. #79367
14 December 1959

Tests III and IV (Cont'd)

7. Are you intentionally withholding about your past during 1942 to 1945? No.
8. Except those you mentioned, do you have contact with any person in the Soviet Union about whom you have not told me? No.
9. In what year were you really born? Answer: 1924.

(Subject was instructed to give the year of birth as an answer.)

10. Were you born in some year other than 1924? No.

Tests V, VI, and VII

31. Have you ever worked for American Intelligence? Yes.
32. Have you ever worked for German Intelligence, i.e., SS or SD? Yes.
- 32a. Have you worked for SS or SD more actively than you told me? No.
33. Have you ever worked for any organs of Soviet Intelligence? No.
34. Have you ever had any contacts with representatives of English Intelligence? No.
35. Did you ever inform on any Circassian to the Germans? No.
36. Do you have current association or secret contacts with anyone connected with Soviet Intelligence? No.
37. Were you ever a Secret for the Soviets? No.
38. Do you have current association or secret contacts with anyone connected with English Intelligence? No.
- 38a. Were you ever recruited by English Intelligence? No.
- 38b. Did you ever get any money or favors from English Intelligence? No.

Test VIII

11. Were you ever a member of the Pioneers? Answer: Don't know.

SECRET

CIA 779367
14 December 1959

Test VIII (Cont'd)

12. Did you submit applications to become a member of the Komsomol? Yes.
13. Were you ever accepted into the Komsomol? No.
14. Was your brother, Leo, a member of the Communist Party? No.
15. Were you ever a candidate for or a member of the Communist No.
16. Were you ever a member of Gostorg? No.
17. Did you ever engage in underground activities for the Soviet Union? No.
18. Did you ever withhold any information about your contacts with any Communist type organization? No.

Test IX

100. Have you intentionally withheld any pertinent information about yourself from us? No.
101. Did you tell me the full and complete story about your life in the Service Union? Yes.
102. Did you tell any Soviet representative about the AIS training you received at Fort Meade? No.
103. Did you tell me the full truth about your association with English Intelligence? Yes.

[REDACTED]

COPIES OF [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

- A. CIB/DCB Debriefing
- B. Memorandum to CI Staff

SECRET

June 3, 1955

At this time, on the occasion of the termination of my employment, I hereby reiterate my previously given pledges and promises that I will forever keep as secret any and all information pertaining to the following:

- a) My connection with the United States Government
- b) Any and all activities of the United States Government which have come to my attention in the course of my employment with the United States Government
- c) The identities of any and all persons with whom I have been associated in the course of this employment.

Sup. McInnis Book 506

S/C Att. to NJA-A-860

SECRET